

Appl. No. 09/990,532
Amdt. Dated 10/20/2005
Reply to Office action of 8/25/2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A system to deliver a multimedia presentation of an audio file to a computing device for display to a user that allows the user to play a musical instrument in conjunction with the multimedia presentation, the system comprising:

a server to transmit a session file to the computing device through a computer network in response to a user selecting a musical piece, the session file associated with the selected musical piece, the session file including an audio file and multimedia data such that the computing device processes the session file to present the multimedia presentation of the audio file to the user; and

an interface device connected to the computing device and the user's musical instrument, the interface device to couple the musical instrument to the computing device such that an audio signal is generated responsive to a user playing the musical instrument that is transmitted to the computing device the user can play the musical instrument in conjunction with the multimedia presentation of the audio file; and

wherein a control panel graphical interface including an amplifier for a musical instrument is displayed by the computing device, the control panel graphical interface having settings that define sound characteristics for the musical instrument to alter the audio signal[.];

wherein a mixed signal is created that combines the altered audio signal with the audio file, the mixed signal being transmitted through a sound device such that the user can play the musical instrument in conjunction with the multimedia presentation of the audio file.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the control panel graphical interface allows the user to set the sound characteristics for the musical instrument.

4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the multimedia data of the session file sets the control panel graphical interface to pre-defined values to model the sound

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characteristics of the musical instrument associated with the audio file for the musical piece selected by the user.

5. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein a track associated with the user's musical instrument is removed from the audio file of the musical piece selected by the user such that the user can play the user's musical instrument in conjunction with a multimedia presentation of the audio file that does not include the user's musical instrument.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the multimedia data of the session file causes the display of music notation associated with the audio file of the musical piece selected by the user.

7. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the server identifies the user based upon a unique identifier stored in the interface device.

8. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein the unique identifier stored in the user's interface device is the serial number associated with the interface device.

9. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein the server tailors a presentation of musical pieces to the user based upon the unique identifier.

10. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein the interface device stores a user key associated with the interface device.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the audio file transmitted from the server to the computing device of the user is encrypted with an audio file key associated with the audio file and the audio file key is encrypted with user key for the user and is also transmitted to the computing device.

12. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the interface device decrypts the audio file key that is encrypted with the user key using the stored user key and transmits the decrypted audio file key to the computing device such that the computing device uses the decrypted audio file key to decrypt the audio file.

13. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the musical instrument is a microphone.

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14. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the musical instrument is a guitar.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 14, wherein the multimedia data of the session file sets the control panel graphical interface to pre-defined values to model the sound characteristics of the guitar associated with the audio file for the musical piece selected by the user.

17. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein a guitar track is removed from the audio file of the musical piece selected by the user such that the user can play the user's guitar in conjunction with a multimedia presentation of the audio file that does not include the guitar track.

18. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the multimedia data of the session file causes the display of music notation for a guitar associated with the audio file of the musical piece selected by the user.

19. (Currently Amended) A method to deliver a multimedia presentation of an audio file to a user that allows the user to play a musical instrument in conjunction with the multimedia presentation, the method comprising:

in response to a user selecting a musical piece, transmitting a session file associated with the musical piece, the session file including an audio file and multimedia data;

processing the session file utilizing a computing device to present a multimedia presentation of the audio file to the user;

coupling the musical instrument to the computing device such that an audio signal from the musical instrument generated responsive to a user playing the musical instrument is transmitted to the computing device; the user can play the musical instrument in conjunction with the multimedia presentation of the audio file; and

displaying a control panel graphical interface including an amplifier for a musical instrument, the control panel graphical interface having settings that define sound characteristics for the musical instrument to alter the audio signal[.]; and

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creating a mixed signal that combines the altered audio signal with the audio file, the mixed signal being transmitted through a sound device such that the user can play the musical instrument in conjunction with the multimedia presentation of the audio file.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the control panel graphical interface allows the user to set the sound characteristics for the musical instrument.

22. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the multimedia data of the session file sets the control panel graphical interface to pre-defined values to model the sound characteristics of the musical instrument associated with the audio file for the musical piece selected by the user.

23. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising removing a track associated with the user's musical instrument from the audio file for the musical piece selected by the user such that the user can play the user's musical instrument in conjunction with a multimedia presentation of the audio file that does not include the user's musical instrument.

24. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising displaying music notation associated with the audio file of the musical piece selected by the user in the multimedia presentation to the user.

25. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising identifying the user based upon a unique identifier.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the unique identifier is a serial number.

27. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising tailoring a presentation of musical pieces to the user based upon the unique identifier.

28. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising storing a user key.

29. (Original) The method of claim 28, further comprising:

encrypting the audio file transmitted to the computing device of the user with an audio file key associated with the audio file; and

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encrypting the audio file key with the user key for the user.

30. (Original) The method of claim 29, further comprising:

decrypting the audio file key that is encrypted with the user key using the stored user key; and

decrypting the audio file with the decrypted audio file key.

31. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the musical instrument is a microphone.

32. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the musical instrument is a guitar.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the multimedia data of the session file sets the control panel graphical interface to pre-defined values to model the sound characteristics of the guitar associated with the audio file for the musical piece selected by the user.

35. (Original) The method of claim 34, further comprising removing a guitar track from the audio file for the musical piece selected by the user such that the user can play the user's guitar in conjunction with a multimedia presentation of the audio file that does not include the guitar track.

36. (Original) The method of claim 34, further comprising displaying music notation for a guitar associated with the audio file of the musical piece selected by the user in the multimedia presentation to the user.

37. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon instructions, which when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform the following operations comprising:

in response to a user selecting a musical piece, transmitting a session file associated with the musical piece, the session file including an audio file and multimedia data;

processing the session file to present a multimedia presentation of the audio file to the user; and

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processing a musical instrument's signal such that an audio signal from the musical instrument is generated responsive to a user playing the musical instrument ~~the user can play the musical instrument in conjunction with the multimedia presentation of the audio file; and~~

displaying a control panel graphical interface including an amplifier for a musical instrument, the control panel graphical interface having settings that define sound characteristics for the musical instrument to alter the audio signal[.]; and

creating a mixed signal that combines the altered audio signal with the audio file, the mixed signal being transmitted through a sound device such that the user can play the musical instrument in conjunction with the multimedia presentation of the audio file.

38. (Canceled)

39. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 37, wherein the control panel graphical interface allows the user to set the sound characteristics for the musical instrument.

40. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 37, wherein the multimedia data of the session file sets the control panel graphical interface to pre-defined values to model the sound characteristics of the musical instrument associated with the audio file for the musical piece selected by the user.

41. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 37, further comprising removing a track associated with the user's musical instrument from the audio file for the musical piece selected by the user such that the user can play the user's musical instrument in conjunction with a multimedia presentation of the audio file that does not include the user's musical instrument.

42. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 37, further comprising displaying music notation associated with the audio file of the musical piece selected by the user in the multimedia presentation to the user.

43. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 37, further comprising identifying the user based upon a unique identifier.

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44. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 43, wherein the unique identifier is a serial number.

45. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 43, further comprising tailoring a presentation of musical pieces to the user based upon the unique identifier.

46. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 43, further comprising storing a user key.

47. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 46, further comprising:
encrypting the audio file transmitted to the computing device of the user with an audio file key associated with the audio file; and
encrypting the audio file key with the user key for the user.

48. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 47, further comprising:

decrypting the audio file key that is encrypted with the user key using the stored user key; and
decrypting the audio file with the decrypted audio file key.

49. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 37, wherein the musical instrument is a microphone.

50. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 37, wherein the musical instrument is a guitar.

51. (Canceled)

52. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 50, wherein the multimedia data of the session file sets the control panel graphical interface to pre-defined values to model the sound characteristics of the guitar associated with the audio file for the musical piece selected by the user.

53. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 52, further comprising removing a guitar track from the audio file for the musical piece selected by the user such that

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the user can play the user's guitar in conjunction with a multimedia presentation of the audio file that does not include the guitar track.

54. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 52, further comprising displaying music notation for a guitar associated with the audio file of the musical piece selected by the user in the multimedia presentation to the user.